

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 IO-14 EB-11 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 STR-08 DRC-01 /101 W

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P 031245Z NOV 73

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1008

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OECD, PER

SUBJECT: CANDIDATES FOR POST OF DEPUTY SECGEN OF OECD

FOR: UNDERSECRETARY CASEY

ASSISTANT SECRETARY STOESSEL

DIRECTOR

1. OECD SECGEN VAN LENNEP CALLED ME URGENTLY LAST EVENING TO POINT OUT HIS EMBARRASSING SITUATION IN HAVING RECEIVED NO APPROACH FROM USG WITH CANDIDATES FOR HIM CONSIDER AS REPLACEMENT FOR DEPUTY SECGEN TIMMONS. REPEATING PLEAS PREVIOUSLY MADE TO ME, TO CASEY AT NAIROBI, AND TO OTHERS, VAN LENNEP SPOKE WITH GENUINE ANXIETY OVER FACT THAT TIMMONS DEPARTURE NEXT MONTH WILL LEAVE CRITICAL VACANCY.

2. ALTHOUGH HE ALLUDED TO ALL THREE TOP POSTS HELD BY AMERICANS HERE (IN SECRETARIAT AND MISSION) WHOSE STATUS IS STILL UNRESOLVED, VAN LENNEP CONCENTRATED THIS CONVERSATION ON TIMMONS REPLACEMENT, SAYING HE DOES NOT SEE HOW HE CAN CARRY OUT HIS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR OECD UNLESS HE CAN HAVE NEW DEPUTY OF EQUAL ABILITY AND HAVE HIM FAST. HE OBSERVED THAT USG HAD NOTIFIED HIM MANY MONTHS AGO THAT IT WOULD NOT RENEW SECONDMENT APPOINTMENT FOR TIMMONS BEYOND DECEMBER AND THAT IT WOULD BE OFFERING HIM CANDIDATES FOR CONSIDERATION. IF US NOW FEELS INCAPABLE OF DOING

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THIS, HE WOULD BE OBLIGED TO TURN TO OTHER MEMBER GOVERNMENTS,

THOUGH HE HOPES THAT WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY.

3. COMMENT. VAN LENNEP CONFIRMED PREVIOUS STATEMENTS ABOUT QUALIFICATIONS HE IS SEEKING. HE WANTS MAN WITH ECONOMIC TRAINING AND POLICY SENSE, BUT WOULD USE HIM LARGELY IN EXECUTIVE OR MANAGERIAL CAPACITY, HENCE CANDIDATES SHOULD HAVE EXPERIENCE DIRECTING ARGE STAFF. I AM CONVINCED THAT VAN LENNEP'S NEEDS AND CONCERNS ARE GENUINE AND THAT WE MUST SUBMIT TO HIM TOP-GRADE CANDIDATES WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.
BROWN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973OECDP28468
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: OECD PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731157/aaaabpml.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29-Aug-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <26-Nov-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CANDIDATES FOR POST OF DEPUTY SEC GEN OF OECD FOR: UNDERSECRETARY CASEY
TAGS: APER, AORG, OECD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005